

Patterson,Robert (HHSC)

From: Hicks,Patricia (DSHS)
Sent: Friday, November 22, 2013 8:46 AM
To: Crawford,Kara (HHSC)
Subject: FW: Real Alternatives - INQUIRY FROM INDIANA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Kara,

I am hoping you can help point me in the right direction. DSHS received an inquiry from the the Governor's Office in Indiana. Lindsay Craig, Family Policy Director, is looking to talk to someone responsible for overseeing what she called the "Real Alternatives program." According to Ms. Craig, similar programs are usually fully or partially funded with TANF dollars. Indiana is interested in bringing the program to their state and wondered what Texas' experience had been.

We do not administer such a program at DSHS, but after doing some research, we found the following information on HHSC's site and thought that maybe this was what she might be inquiring about.

Alternatives to Abortion

The Alternatives to Abortion program provides low-income pregnant women with pregnancy and parenting information and supports such as:

- Counseling referral and pregnancy information hotline, 1-888-Life-Aid or 1-888-543-3243.
- Texas Pregnancy Care Network website, www.texaspregnancy.org.
- Support groups in maternity homes.
- Referrals to community and social service programs such as child-care, transportation, housing, and state and federal benefit programs.
- Classes on life skills, budgeting, parenting, stress management and General Education Development (GED).
- Items such as car seats, maternity clothes, infant diapers and formula.

The information was found at the following HHSC link: <http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/providers/FACS/#abortion>

Can you please have someone contact Ms. Craig to provide information regarding this program? I don't have a phone number to provide, but her original inquiry to Ricky Garcia is found below. I would like to email her to let her know that someone from HHSC will be contacting her. Would you mind giving me the name of the person she might expect to hear from? I will email her to let her know. Thanks so much.

On another note, congratulations on your new position!

Patricia Hicks, MPA
Legislative Liaison
Government Affairs Office
Department of State Health Services
(512) 776-7723
(512) 458-7624 (fax)
patricia.hicks@dshs.state.tx.us

From: Garcia,Ricky (DSHS)
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2013 2:06 PM
To: Hicks,Patricia (DSHS)
Cc: Dauster,Nicholas (DSHS)
Subject: Fwd: Real Alternatives

Patricia can you check with FCHS on this - see if folks know where to refer her.

Thanks

Ricky Garcia
(512) 776-7113
Department of State Health Services

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Craig, Lindsey M" <LCraig@gov.IN.gov>
Date: November 19, 2013 2:34:26 PM CST
To: "Garcia,Ricky (DSHS)" <Ricky.Garcia@dshs.state.tx.us>
Subject: Real Alternatives

Hey Ricky-

I've got another question for you... could you help connect me with the person in your state who would oversee the Real Alternatives program? It's usually funded with partially/or fully TANF dollars. Indiana is looking at bringing the program to our state and wondered what Texas' experience had been. If you need more background info from me let me know. Thanks for any direction you can provide!

Lindsey Craig

Family Policy Director • Governor Michael R. Pence • State of Indiana